

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6254

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3280

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, IR

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER GANDHI'S VISIT TO IRAN

REF: TEHRAN 2973

1. FROM MFA AND INDIAN EMBASSY SOURCES WE HAVE LEARNED A LITTLE ABOUT BACKGROUND OF GANDHI VISIT HERE BUT STILL HAVE ONLY SPECULATION ABOUT SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED. HER VISIT, THE HIGHEST IN RECENT YEARS BY AN INDIAN OFFICIAL, APPEARS TO BE OUTGROWTH OF STEADILY IMPROVING RELATIONS DURING PAST YEAR AS INDIA'S SUSPICIONS OF IRANIAN ARMS PURCHASES AND INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN

ASSUAGED THROUGH RECIPROCAL VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTERS AND AGREEMENTS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

2. THAT THIS IS TO BE MORE THAN A ROUTINE PROTOCOL VISIT IS INDICATED BY FACT THAT MRS. GANDHI REJECTED PROPOSED SIGHTSEEING VISIT TO ISFAHAN IN ORDER TO HAVE MORE TIME FOR SUBSTANTIVE TALKS.

SHE WILL HAVE AT LEAST TWO SESSIONS WITH SHAH AND WILL BE GUEST AT ONE LUNCH AND ONE DINNER RATHER THAN ONLY ONE LUNCH AS IS CUSTOMARY FOR VISITING HEAD OF GOVERNMENT.

3. MFA DIRGEN FOR ASIA AND AFRICA SADRIEH TOLD POLCOUN HE EXPECTED AT LEAST FOLLOWING MATTERS WOULD BE DISCUSSED DURING
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VISIT: (A) SUB-CONTINENT RELATIONS; IRANIANS WOULD OFFER CON-

GRATULATIONS ON DELHI TRIPARTITE CONFERENCE AND URGE FURTHER
PROGRESS TOWARD EQUALITY AMONG SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES. (B)
ADDITIONAL AREAS FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION. (C) SECURITY OF
PERSIAN GULF; SADRIEH SAID IRAN WOULD SEEK INDIAN POLITICAL
SUPPORT FOR ITS GULF POLICY. (D) INDIAN OCEAN. (E) ASIAN
COMMON MARKET.
HELMS

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